

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-12 HA-05 MCT-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /101 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8619

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE POUCH

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMCONSUL BUKAVU POUCH

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINR, CG

SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN COUP PLOT TRIAL: THIRD DAY

REF: KINSHASA 2344 AND PREVIOUS

1. DURING THIRD DAY OF THE COUP PLOT TRIAL, THIRTY-SEVEN ADDITIONAL

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DEFENDANTS GAVE TESTIMONY WHICH DID LITTLE TO ADVANCE THE GOVERNMENT'S

CASE AGAINST THE PLOTTERS. TWENTY-NINE OF THE DEFENDANTS WERE ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN THE PLOT ESSENTIALLY ON THE STRENGTH OF THEIR HAVING ATTENDED THE BURIAL AND REQUIEM MASS OF AN ALLEGED KEY CONSPIRATOR, THE LATE MAJOR MPIANA. (MPIANA DIED ACCIDENTALLY WHILE PLAYING BASKETBALL SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE THE ARRESTS.)

2. FROM MEDIA COVERAGE AND REPORTS BY EMBOFF ATTENDING TRIAL, EMBASSY JUDGES THAT SUBSTANTIAL CASE OF PLOTTING IS BEING BUILT BY GOZ AGAINST APPROXIMATELY HALF-DOZEN PERSONS. CHARGES AGAINST OTHER DEFENDANTS EXAMINED THUS FAR REMAIN TENUOUS.

3. AS MENTIONED IN EARLIER REPORTING, MANY OF ACCUSED PERSONS WERE TRAINED, HAVE TRAVELED, OR OTHERWISE BEEN ASSIGNED ABROAD, ESPECIALLY IN BELGIUM. MISSION RECORDS INDICATE THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE ALLEGED MILITARY PLOTTERS RECEIVED TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES. LIEUTENANT KIEMBE KIPUKU FOLO ATTENDED TRAINING COURSES IN U.S. AS FOLLOWS: MAINTENANCE OFFICER - 1969, ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR - 1973, AND ARMY TRANSPORTATION - 1976. LIEUTENANT SUPU ESEKO ATTENDED ADVANCED ARMY ENGINEER COURSE IN 1975. ALTHOUGH AN ADJUTANT THOMAS KALUME ATTENDED ARMY ENGINEER BASIC COURSE IN 1970, WE DO NOT BELIEVE HE IS THE MAJOR KALUME HAMBA ACCUSED OF BEING THE PRINCIPAL CONSPIRATOR.

4. AMERICAN TRAINING OF ACCUSED OFFICERS HAS NOT BEEN MENTIONED IN COURT DELIBERATIONS. IN FACT, NO FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN PLOT WAS MENTIONED DURING THIRD DAY'S TRIAL PROCEEDINGS. CUTLER

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